## Early Day Reminiscences of the Salt Lake Theatre

sa Patron of The Drama DAVID McKENZIE, Matinee Idol of the Sixties first connection with any stage was the result of a mistake. Robert Y. Taylor and myself ar-

rived in the city from Scotland, in Oct. 1854. We called at John Lyon's, to whom I had a letter of introduction, and at whose house a hence his influence. He introduced precated waltzing. member of the association, but Brother morality. As early as 1854, he person-

convivial party was being held. During ed to theatrical entertainments, especithe evening, Brother Taylor de- ally those of an amusing character. He livered two recitations, and so im- said to the audience on the opening pressed Brother Lyon with his ability night of the theater: "If I had my way Facsimile of Invitation to the that be invited him to attend a meet. I would never have a tragedy played ing to be held in the Social hall, only on these boards. There is enough of two evenings later, for the organiza- tragedy in every day life, and we ought tion of a theatrical company to play to have amusement when we come through the winter. Brother Lyon held here." He was equally interested in the position of critic in the association, the amusement of dancing, but he de-

Brother Taylor to President Brigham It was indispensable with him that Young at that meeting. He gave a reci- all those entertainments should be contation there, and was voted in as a ducted under the terms of the strictest

Mr. David McKenzie, leading man at the Salt Lake Theater during the palmy days of the old stock company which held the boards during the sixties and early seventies, contributes to the Christmas News the following interesting recollections. Those who meet Mr. McKenzie today, though he is still hale and hearty at the age of 75, can hardly picture him as a dashing leading man, the matinee idol of the girls of 43 years ago, yet such he undoubtedly was. He and Asenath Adams, mother of Maude Adams, played the leads together, or together they supported traveling stars in a fashion that put them on the top pinnacle of popularity in those

The accompanying picture of Mr. McKenzie, as he looked at the age of 32, (1865) was taken by C. R. Savage, who stopped him one day as he was passing the photograph gallery, and insisted on "taking" him just as he was, the artist informing the actor that he was besieged with inquiries for his photo from the young ladies of the city.

While Mr. McKenzie is engaged in the Church office, and is actively concerned in Church work, he retains his interest in theatricals and is a frequent attendant at the old house Saturday afternoons. His scrap book is a cyclopedia of information regarding early theatrical days and he has the cast of nearly every performance given during his active connection with the theater.

elicited further inquiry, with the result. actresses to and from the Social hall, that I was invited to attend the next on every occasion, so as to avoid the meeting. I did so and was installed society that might embarrass them in the new company, not, however, as after performances. Those rehearsals an actor like Brother Taxlor, for I and dances were invariably opened could not then recite, but to render with prayer. He sternly opposed the declined the office, but agreed to acany assistance needed as a supernumer- habits of smoking and drinking, and cept it, with the assurance that the ary, It was some time before I got he insisted that the playhouse ought to secretary would do the most of the Afterwards the theater was erected and those who were engaged in them. He ness was therefore run un for Polydor in "Ingomar" and Colonna their instant dismissal. (a juvenile part) in "Evadue." After One example shows the interest he this I had many good parts, compristook in our theatricals. It fell to my management."

in that capacity until May 1, 1875, With improvement on the first one. and others until Oct. 19, 1872.

the stage, but eight years later, when any remark. instructed by President John Taylor look after the interests of the theater, I was coaching the Home Dramatic club; they insisted on remunerating me for my services, so I put on "The Octoroon," playing Jacob McClosky, Oct. 6. 1880, the club volunteering their services and I had over a \$1,000 house. Again on March 4, 1881, Mr. Bandmann was under contract here to appear as Macbeth. The orchestra and witches had been under full rehearsals for all the choruses, when Mr. Bandmann telegraphed cancelling his engagement. Rather than any loss should accrue, I played "Macbeth" in his stead and had an \$890 house. I find from my journal that from that time on to April 3, 1884, the date of my very last appearance, I forcible, Dramatic combination.

PRESIDENT YOUNG AND THE

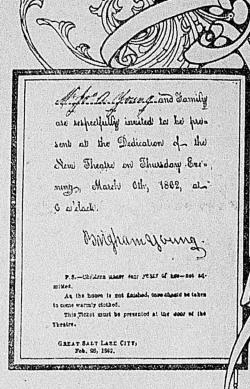
Lyon in his motion misnamed him ally attended our rehearsals. He had "David McKenzie," The correction his private carriage convey the lady

ing a wide range. For example I played lot to be the first Uncle Tom on our Polonius in "Hamlet" with John Mc- stage. Our preceptor, George Paunce-Cullough, after playing Pythias to his fort, played the part of George Harris. Damon a few nights previous. This He assured me that it was not right to was in 1868. On Dec. 28, of that year, speak Uncle Toms part in the negro I left the home company, who on that dialect. The morning after the first date gave me a farewell benefit. It performance, President Young took me had fallen to my lot, to do leading strongly to task for not using the diabusiness from January, 1865, until I lect. He instructed me to hunt up left the stage nearly four years later, some one who could speak it properly, John T. Caine, who formerly did the and so learn it. Then he said I was leading business had retired to devote to use some padding, so that the suit famous actress Julia Dean himself exclusively to the role of "stage of clothes he was wearing at that time [ ] would fit me. (We were of the exact When I left the stage President same height.) The suit to be worn Brigham Young at once took me into when Uncle Tom was talking with St. his service as corresponding secretary. Clair. I did as he told me, and wore At that time Caine & Clawson were his clothes, and the next performance, lessees of the theater, and continued thanks to President Young, was a great

the approval of President Young I oc- Never was theatrical manager more casionally took part again when some careful in his precautions against fire the west. Mrs. Hayne, howstar appeared who needed support in than President Young. We used only some character which I was known to coal oil for light in those days. On one be familiar with. So, on Sept. 13, 1869, occasion, George Francis Train was I played Richmond to Nell Warner's delivering a lecture in the theater, deeply attached, in fact she Richard III, Macduff to his Macbeth, when two or three of the coul oil foot- married her second husband, and Polonius to his Hamlet. I also lights commenced to flare up and supported Madame Scheller, Amy smoke. The president quietly stepped of the notable nights of her Stone, Leo Hudson, C. W. Couldock, out of the stage box, strode over to Mrs Lander, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Bates the smoking lamps, and with his broad brimmed hat, coolly wafted the lights I thought I was now through with out, and returned to his box without

Another incident came to my mind (the successor of President Young) to showing the precautionary measures he adopted. We were playing "The Rapparce." Sally Hinckley, George W. Thompson and myself were to have destruction of a castle by fire. It was intended to be a gorgeous spectacle. the drenching we got from a score of water buckets emptied from the flies right down upon our heads was something never to be forgotten. When the lady recovered herself and looked upon her dripping satin, she used language, that, to say the least, was most

President Young was ardently devot- so disgusting to him, that he avowed



Dedication of the Theater, Issued by President Brigham

The original is owned by Mr. Feramorz L. Clawson, who is negotiating with several collectors of relies for its sale. Thus far he has not received what he regards as a satisfactory price.

he wanted all such scenes forever banished from our stage. Still he felt that it was not his prerogative to forbid the repetition of the play, but he did advise the people through the various bishops, not to attend the next performance. MANAGERIAL CAREER.

My management was in joint association with John T. Caine and Hiram B. Clawson, and came about in this way. Prest. John Taylor as trustee in trust, in 1879, decided to organize the Salt Lake Dramatic association. He instructed me to call on United States Marshal Shaughnessy to receive from him the keys of the theater, which he held pending the litigation in the district court in which the theater was concerned. When I returned and gave the president the keys, he said he would need a president and vice president, also a secretary and a treasurer and asked me who I thought would be the proper parties. I supposed he would be president, and said so. He said emphatically "no." I then suggested John T. Caine as a fitting man of long experience in the business, and Hiram B. Clawson as vice president, both of whom he approved of. He said he wanted James Jack for treasurer and asked me if I would act as secrewas at that time city recorder, at first

FIRST REGULAR NIGHT SEASON. SATURDAY EVE., MARCH 8, '62. Will be presented the beautiful Comic Drama in 1 Acts
THE PRIDE formence commences at 7:

Facsimile of the House Program at the First Regular Dramatic Performance Given in the Salt Lake Theater.

company, etc.

of which he was sole manager. The- she closed her engagement here. dropped my name entirely from the THE EARLY STARS.

mostly by traveling companies. The continued to play alone until George stage at long intervals.

local entertainments consisted of balls. Pauncefort and Florence Bell appeared lectures, etc., the plays by the Dra- July 20, 1864, in the "Romance of a Poor matic combination and the Home Dra- Young Man." They continued there matic club. Among the traveling com- until Jan, 7, 1865, also playing twice a panies were Sothern, Emilie Melville, week. The local company filled up the T. W. Keene, Robson & Crane, Hazel interval until Julia Dean Hayne and Kirke company, Alice Oates, Geistin- the Potter Troupe arrived here Aug. ger, Nat Goodwin, Comley Barton, 11, 1865. They played until Sept. 5, Vokes, Lawrence Barrett, Callender's 1865, when the troupe disbanded, leav-Minstrels, Union Square company, Bou- ing a few members here who appeared cicault, Mapelson Opera company, Car- in connection with the home company lotta Patti, Rhea, Langtry, Bijou com- some time, particularly the leading pany, Wallack company, Carleton's man, George B. Waldron who support-Opera company, Joseffy, Emma Abbott, ed Julia Dean Hayne until April 17, Emma Nevada, Madison Square com- 1866, when the season closed. With the pany, Mary Anderson, Duff's Opera new season commencing June 2, 1366, Julia Dean Hayne reappeared, support-During this period Dr. Banks McKen- ed by David McKenzie and the local zie had built the Walker Opera House, company, until June 30, 1866. when

atrical managers in correspondence The home company continued to play with our house, being best acquainted twice a week and occasionally thrice, with me, frequently addressed their and at intervals supported single or letters and telegrams to "Manger Mc-double stars who might be crossing Kenzie," and sometimes these were delivered to the rival house and never reached their proper destination, so I dropped my name entirely from the double stars who might be crossing would be insufficient for the whole, and hence many invitations were extended here. Brother Wells would be insufficient for the whole, and hence many invitations were extended over to a second night's entertainment. Amy Stone, James Stark, A. R. Phelps, tary, which I agreed to. When the election took place, Brother Caine, who management, and it was again "Caine Madam Scheller, Annette Ince, Nell the first Thursday, March 6, 1862; the & Clawson, managers," although I did the work as before, covering a period of seven and a half years.

Madam Scheller, Annette Ince, Net the first Thursday, March 8, 1862. The sisters, to witness the joy of their program on the opening night was a countenances, and to know that their eyes were happy and that their eyes were happy and contentment. appeared, except on rare occasions, tled, at last, once and for all, the conary. It was some time perore I got he insisted that the playhouse ought to work, and he would only be required on Jan. 14, 1863, the first "star" ap- when home talent got up a bill. The flict in the memory of many old timers, parts of any importance, playing most- be as sacred as the temple, and might to advise when preserve the latter than the memory of many old timers. mportance, playing most be as sacred as the temple, and might to advise, when necessary. The busi- peared at the Salt Lake Theater, viz., Home Dramatic club, Culmer and some of whom insist that the comic men in the Social hall, be made so by the proper conduct of A. Lyne, in the play of "Vir- Whitney, managers, was organized and Afterwards the theater was erected and those who were engaged in them. The Afterwards the theater was erected and those who were engaged in them. The Market," the Irwins appeared there Nov. 4, 1863, used every laudable means to inculcate of "Caine, Clawson & McKenzie," man-ginius," supported by the local com-made its first appearance in April, 1880, was not presented until the Saturday of "Caine, Clawson & McKenzie," man-ginius," supported by the local com-made its first appearance in April, 1880, was not presented until the Saturday. the Irwins appeared there Nov. 7, 1995, was not presented until the Saturday the Irwins appeared there Nov. 7, 1995, was not presented until the Saturday agers. The first performance under this pany. He came to Utah originally in "The Romance of a Poor Young Man," night performance. While the account they had witnessed one performance those views, but President Young was They had witnessed one performance of a roof loung Man, night performance. While the account management was given on Oct. 4, 1879, as a preceptor for the stock company. playing at intervals for some years, of the program on the opening night as "The Charcoal Burner, in which are the program on the opening night as by James Herne, and his own company. The next stars were Mr. and Mrs. Ir- The Dramatic combination, headed by printed in the Descret News of March the company took part; I had played not always enforced, although, not althe company took part, I had played five nights. This man- win who first appeared Nov. 4, 1863, in John T. Caine, as business manager, 12, 1862, is not entirely clear (because Myron, and in casting the "Lady of together unheeded. Yet I know of sev-Myron, and in casing the Lady of Lyons." They remained and David McKenzie, Phil Margetts, the paper was only a weekly in those Lyons" for their opening piece they eral instances where improper con-Lyons" for their opening piece they the paper was only a weekly in those the paper was only a weekly in those the for Col. Damas, afterwards duct on the part of performers caused the par tainments given during this period were until April 9, 1864. The local company as they could procure also occupied the

come a school

last farewell,

linger,

Yet, Farewell.,"

must be,

strokes of art,

To raise the genius and

mend the heart."

A sound which makes us

JULIA DEAN HAYNE.

A form of sculptured beauty;

with their families and to open the the theater; they could make evil of house to none others, but President anything, but they did not expect to do The date is rapidly approaching when the Salt Lake Theater will celebrate its jubilee. Its fiftieth anniversary will occur March 6, 1912, and if the precedents in other cities are followed, notably in the case of McVicker's Theater, Chicago, the management will see to it that the event is celebrated in memorable fash-The Salt Lake Theater is now almost the sole survivor of the American houses which were running in the sixties. Its old contemporaries were the Ford in Washington, (where President

LTHOUGH nearly 47 years have vice, and to pursue that undeviating

passed since the event, I well course of rectitude and virtue that inrecall the all-absorbing interest variably led to happiness and honor.

with which the opening of the There was nothing lovely in the world,

Salt Lake theater was awaited. It was nothing delightful but the Lord had

first intended to have all church of- created it for the good of His children.

ficials, city, county, and territorial of- and it was the abuse, and not the prop-

ficers, the workmen on the theater, and er use of anything, that constituted

workmen on the temple block, attend evil. Men could make evil of going to

cisco, the Academy of Music in Denver, Farnham's in Omaha, and Hooley's in Chicago, but all have passed away from one cause or another. Many old timers have grown somewhat mixed in their memories as to the actual date of the opening of the Salt Lake Theater. The fact is that there were two openings, one on Thursday, March 6, 1862, when the building was dedicated, though it was still uncompleted, and the other two nights later, Saturday, March 8, when the first regular performance took place. Another dedication took place Dec. 24, 1862, when the house was finished. It is

for the purpose of "getting the record straight," on these two im-

Lincoln was assassinated), the Bowery, in New York, the Ben

De Bar, in St. Louis, the California and Maguires, in San Fran-

portant events that this article is prepared for the Christmas

There were thus two opening nights, be set down as certain that "The Pride of the Market" wound up Thursday evening's entertainment. This is borne out by the memory of several survivors, including Mrs. M. G. Clawson, who took part in the play, and who remembers sitting in costume in the wings waiting for the dedication services to be over. Mr. David McKenzle, James the drama's teachings. Then indeed the grand object would Jack, and the late B. H. Schettler were equally positive on this point, and the be achieved and it would bematter is clinched by an extract from the diary of George Goddard, which "To wake the soul by tender the writer has lately perused, and in which it is stated, under date of March "But I speak too long and was performed, Eliza and Mary (his pause-perhaps, before the daughters) took part as French market "A word that has been and

girls. A very snowy day," The main interest of the first evening's program centered in the address of President Brigham Young, who, with his counselors, Heber C. Kimball and Daniel H. Wells, presided. The dedi-It was at that time the catory prayer, a most eloquent and feelgifted Utah poetess, Sarah ing effort, was offered by President Carmichael, inscribed the fol- Daniel H. Wells. The house was packlowing beautiful lines to Mrs. ed with members of the high council, bishops of the city, county and territorial officers, the men who had been working on the building and the em-

ployes of the temple block. President Young took as the theme for his address "The Capacity of the Human Body and Mind for Improvement and Development." He said that generation after generation of men had lived upon the earth, and from neglect of their duties they had passed away and had failed to enjoy the privileges and blessings which the All Wise Creator had placed within the reach of His creatures. They had lived and died without learning the object of their existence on the earth. He alluded to the notions entertained by some "unco godly" Christians against amusements, because of the evils sometimes attendant at places of public resort; but it vited guests who were unable to at was for the saints to neither follow the traditions of the one, nor to fall into the errors of the other. He had him-dous impression and its work was so self been so "plously" raised, that he promising that not long after Presi-could never have thought of visiting a dent Young encouraged the tragedlan, theater and like other youngsters, uncould never have thought of visiting a dent Young encouraged the tragedlan. T. A. Lyne, to take up his abode here der such an influence, had his doubts that if even listening to the vibrations of "the fiddle" was not a step in the direction of Davy Jones. The Lord look-

ed, or be corrupted and polluted; and to that he said "amen." He was glad to see his brethren and

Salt Lake Theatre.

Whose Jubilee will Occur March 6, 1912

to choose the good and eschew the evil. It was not

to learn evil; but to know

the duplicity and talse-

hood of false men, guard

against the inroads of

resplendent with joy and contentment. It was joy for man to meet his friend and to rejoice with him. The happiness of men and women was-much of itcreated the elements and sustained work of His hands; but the Lord did not plant the seed, sow the grain, build their grist mills, nor yet bake their bread for the support of their bodies. He did not raise factories and con-struct machinery for the use of man; but He expected of men the development of that intelligence that was planted within them to provide everything for themselves; the Lord was not going to build houses and habitations for them to occupy, but He had inspired them with the wisdom neces-sary to provide for the wants incident to existence. Every pure enjoyment was from heaven and was for the saints, and when they came togethe with pure spirits and with faith that they could pray for the actors and actresses, they would be benefited and refreshed in their entertainments; and those on the stage should ever be as humble and just as if they were on missions preaching the gospei. No impure thoughts should be inspired there, and no impure words expressed. Truth and virtue must abound and character ize every person engaged on the stage or they should be immediately ejected 6, 1862: "At 6 p. m. the new theater was dedicated, after which a new play person—would be permitted to bring liquor into that edifice, and the police would protect them from the inebriate

and the contamination of the filthy breath of the poor loafer. Other addresses were given by President Heber C. Kimball and Elder John Taylor, and in conclusion Presi-dent Young spoke in commendation of the work of the architect of the building, William H. Folsom; also of the members of the Deseret Dramatic association, who were to appear upon the

The music of the occasion was rendered by a choir and orchestra, pre-sided over by Prof. C. J. Thomas, the selections being "The Star Spangled Banner," with solo by William C. Dunbar, "The Marseillalse," by the orchestra, an anthem written by Eliza R. Snow, the music by Prof. Thomas, and the hymn, "Lo, On the Mountain Tops Appearing:" another song composed for the occasion by Elder John Taylor rendered by the choir and Mr. Dunbar,

THE SECOND NIGHT. "The first regular night of the season," Saturday evening, March 8, brought the reproduction of "The Pride of the Market," a comic drama in three acts, with the popular farce entitled "State Secrets;" a facsimile of one of the house programs, with the notable cast operaged notable cast ongaged appears on this page. Of all those who took part only Mr. Caine (who with H. B. Clyawson, was manager), Mr. McKenzie, Mr. Clawson, Mrs. Clawson, Phil Margetts and C. J. Thomas survive. The second tend the first performance, with an overflow turnout from the public at large. The company made a tremendirection of Davy Jones. The Lord looked upon the children of men as they
were, saw their deeds, and understood
them, and so should the saints understand what was in the world, and learn
siderable time about 1865-6.

## Julia Dean Hayne As a Speech Maker.

NE of the most luminous and unforgettable pages in the history of the Salt Lake theater, is the engagement of the Hayne. She played here several times in the years 1865-66 and it has always been considered remarkable that an actress who throughout America was regarded as a second Adelaide Nielson, should have tarried so long in the wilds of ever, found friends, fellowplayers, and an audience here, to all of whom she became Mr.Cooper, from this city. One engagement was a farewell tendered her at the Salt Lake Theater, when the play of "The Pope of Rome," was the bill. During the performance she was called perore the curtain and the following clipping is from the Descret

News' files of those days. "At the fall of the curtain, Julia Dean was called for. formed a tableau. The scene was the She appeared, and with much feeling spoke as follows:

"'Ladies and Gentlemen: "It is but seldom I lose the artist in the woman, or per-Every possible measure had been taken mit a personal feeling to mingle with my public duties; to avert accident from fire, but unfor- 'yet, perhaps, in now taking leave I may be pardoned if I tunately, before the climax was reach- essay to speak of obligations which are lasting. If, dured, the cue was prematurely given, and ing my lengthened stay within your midst, some trials have beset my path, many kindnesses have cheered the way, the shafts of malice have fallen powerless, and the evil words of falser hearts have wasted as the air. And perhaps in teaching me how sweet the gratitude I owe these friends, I should almost thank the malignancy which called their kindness forth. For such, believe me, memory holds a sacred chamber where no meaner emotion can intrude.

"To President Young for very many courtesies to a appeared in 16 performances, at long I recollect another item illustrative stranger, lone and unprotected, I return those thanks intervals, as a member of the Sait Lake of President Young. James A. Herne which are hallowed by their earnestness; and I trust he and Lucille Western were playing will permit me, in the name of my art, to speak my high "Oliver Twist." The brutality of the appreciation of the order and beauty that reign through-

treatment of Nancy Sykes by Bill was out this house.
so disgusting to him, that he avowed "I would the same purity prevailed in every temple for

A deep magnetic face, That draws the gazer's worship To its intense embrace; Her beauty presses on the heart. Yet shines above it far With a strange polar luster,

Exquisite woman star! Her beauty hath a splendid stress That words cannot explain, Expression swoons in its caress-Julia Dean Hayne.

An animate repose; Expressive power of silence, No language can disclose: Her lip, with languid motion, turns Each leaf in feeling's book:

Her voice can picture all things, but, Her elequence of look. A warm pulse in the world's great heart, She thrills its every vein;

And bids its tear-drops stay or start-

Julia Dean Hayne. S. E. CARMICHAEL.

G. S. L. City, Nov. 12, 1865.

A still repose of motion.

